

Docket No.: 43888-353

PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of : Customer Number: 20277  
Toshifumi YOSHIMINE, et al. : Confirmation Number: Not yet  
assigned  
Application No.: Not yet assigned : Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned  
Filed: January 11, 2005 : Examiner: Not yet assigned  
For: VALVE-REGULATED LEAD-ACID BATTERY

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Honorable Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the references be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed with the application and no certification or fee is required.

A copy of the foreign search report is attached for the Examiner's information. Please note this is a PCT application in the entry of the National Phase in the U.S. and copies of the references cited were transmitted by WIPO and are believed to be in the file of the above identified application and readily available to the Examiner. Therefore it is believed that Applicants have met all requirements regarding duty of disclosure under 37

Not yet assigned

10/520894

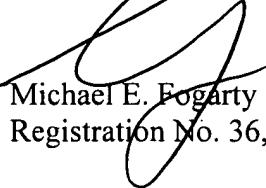
DT Rec'd PCT/PTO 11 JAN 2005

CFR 1.56. Acknowledgement and consideration of these documents are respectfully requested.

A copy of the foreign search report is attached for the Examiner's information. Please note this is a PCT application in the entry of the National Phase in the U.S. However, to ensure that these references are available to the Examiner, we are providing copies of these references herewith. Since the Search Report was from the U.S. JPO or EPO search authorities, copies of these references should have been supplied to the USPTO under the trilateral agreement and are believed to be in the file of the above identified application and readily available to the Examiner.

Respectfully submitted,

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**Please recognize our Customer No. 20277  
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SHEET 1 OF 1

**\*EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 A

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.